

Message Text

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13

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 RSR-01 /122 W

----- 049109

R 101415Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6311

INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, RH, UNN, US

SUBJ: RHODESIAN SANCTIONS: RHODESIAN INFORMATION OFFICE HEARINGS

REF: STATE 126709

1. MALAWI'S POSITION RE SANCTIONS HAS CONSISTENTLY BEEN KEYED TO DEPENDENCY OF COUNTRY ON TRADE ACCESS TO SOUTH AS WELL AS THROUGH PORTUGUESE MOZAMBIQUE AND TO BELIEF IN "CONTACTS AND COMMUNICATIONS." SINCE INITIAL DECISION ON SANCTIONS MALAWI HAS REGULARLY STATED IT WOULD CONTINUE BILATERAL TRADE, CURRENT LEVELS OF WHICH ARE \$4.4 MILLION OR 5 PERCENT OF MALAWIAN EXPORTS AND \$21.7 MILLION OR 15.5 PERCENT OF MALAWI'S IMPORTS. ESTIMATED 120,000 TO 200,000 MALAWIANS WORK IN RHODESIA IN PRIMARY AND SERVICE SECTIONS. SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF RHODESIAN TOURISTS VISIT LAKESHORE AREAS IN MALAWI, ALTHOUGH NUMBER HAS DROPPED CONSIDERABLY SINCE INCREASE IN FRELIMO ACTIVITY ON ROAD THROUGH TETE. HOWEVER, MALAWI HAS TAKEN AND MAINTAINED POSITION THAT MALAWI WOULD NOT PERMIT EXISTENCE BILATERAL TRADE TO BECOME SUBTERFUGE FOR SANCTION-BUSTING, AND MALAWI WOULD NOT BECOME ENTREPOT

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FOR SUCH ACTIVITY. EVIDENCE AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY CONFIRMS

THAT THIS IS CASE AND MALAWI ACTS VIGOROUSLY TO ENSURE
POLICY IS ENFORCED.

2. IN LINE WITH FOREGOING, MALAWI IMPOSES NO RESTRICTIONS
ON REMITTANCES UNDER PENSION, MEDICAL, HUMANITARIAN EXCEPTIONS.
REMITTANCES PASS THROUGH NORMAL BANKING FACILITIES WHICH
EXIST IN CONNECTION BILATERAL TRADE ACTIVITY. IMPORT PURCHASES
FROM RHODESIA ARE NORMALLY DENOMINATED IN RHODESIAN DOLLARS.
IF DOLLARS ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN MALAWI, THEN PAYMENT NORMALLY
IS DONE IN HARD CURRENCY SUCH AS SOUTH AFRICAN RAND.

3. THERE IS NO OFFICIAL RHODESIAN REPRESENTATION IN MALAWI
ALTHOUGH NUMBER OF COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVES INCLUDING AIR
RHODESIA AND ESTSTE MANAGERS (ESPECIALLY TOBACCO) ARE PRESENT.
THEY ARE TREATED AS ANY OTHER FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN. MALAWI
MAINTAINS REPRESENTATIVE IN SALISBURY FOR TRADE MATTERS
(H.G. GRAHM-JOLLY) AS WELL AS PASSPORT AND LABOR LIAISON
OFFICER (C. MUNRO).
BURDETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BLANTY00983
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BLANTYRE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730744/aaaabggp.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 126709
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <30-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIAN SANCTIONS: RHODESIAN INFORMATION OFFICE HEARINGS
TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, RH, US, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005